

3.E Poverty

Table 3.E2.—Number and percent of poor persons, by age, at end of 1959-96 ¹

[Based on data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). Civilian noninstitutionalized population; see Technical Note: Poverty Data]

Age and family status ²	1959	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990 ³	1995	1996
Total civilian noninstitutionalized population ⁴ (in millions)								
All ages	176.5	202.5	210.4	225.0	236.6	248.6	263.7	266.2
Children under 18 in families	64.0	69.9	64.8	62.2	62.0	64.9	70.3	70.4
With—								
Male householder ⁵	58.3	60.8	54.1	50.6	49.5	49.5	52.1	52.6
Female householder.....	5.7	9.0	10.6	11.5	12.5	15.4	18.2	17.8
18-54 ⁶	81.0	94.9	104.7	116.3	125.2	132.3	140.7	142.5
55-64.....	15.5	18.4	19.8	21.7	22.1	21.3	21.1	21.5
65 or older.....	15.6	19.3	21.7	24.7	27.3	30.1	31.7	31.9
In families	11.9	13.4	14.8	16.7	18.4	20.1	21.1	21.2
Unrelated individuals.....	3.7	5.8	6.9	8.0	8.9	10.0	10.6	10.7
Men	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.3	2.7	2.7
Women.....	2.5	4.4	5.4	6.3	7.0	7.7	7.9	8.0
Number poor ⁴ (in millions)								
All ages	39.5	25.3	25.9	29.3	33.1	33.6	36.4	36.5
Children under 18 in families	17.2	10.5	10.9	11.1	12.5	13.3	14.4	14.2
With—								
Male householder ⁵	13.1	5.7	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.3	5.6	5.7
Female householder.....	4.1	4.8	5.6	5.9	6.7	8.0	8.9	8.5
18-54 ⁶	13.4	8.2	9.7	12.2	14.8	14.6	16.5	16.7
55-64.....	3.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.2
65 or older.....	5.5	4.7	3.3	3.9	3.5	3.7	3.3	3.4
In families	3.2	2.0	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2
Unrelated individuals.....	2.3	2.7	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.2
Men7	.5	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4
Women.....	1.6	2.2	1.7	2.0	1.9	2.1	1.9	1.9
Percent poor ⁴								
All ages	22.4	12.6	12.3	13.0	14.0	13.5	13.8	13.7
Children under 18 in families	26.9	15.0	16.8	17.9	20.1	20.5	20.5	20.2
With—								
Male householder ⁵	22.4	9.3	9.8	10.4	11.7	10.7	10.7	10.9
Female householder.....	72.2	53.4	52.7	50.8	53.6	52.1	48.6	47.7
18-54 ⁶	16.5	8.7	9.2	10.5	11.8	11.0	11.7	11.7
55-64.....	21.5	11.4	10.2	9.5	10.5	9.7	10.2	10.3
65 or older.....	35.2	24.6	15.3	15.7	12.6	12.2	10.5	10.8
In families	26.9	14.7	8.0	8.5	6.4	5.9	5.0	5.6
Unrelated individuals.....	61.9	47.1	31.0	30.6	25.6	24.8	21.4	20.9
Men	59.0	38.9	27.7	24.4	20.5	17.3	14.3	14.0
Women.....	63.3	49.7	31.9	32.3	27.0	26.9	23.8	23.3

¹ Data for 1970 and 1975 are based on the 1970 Census of Population controls.

² Income and poverty status refer to the calendar year shown; family status is as of March of the succeeding year.

³ Based on revised methodology.

⁴ Includes Armed Forces in the United States living off post or with families on post. Excludes unrelated individuals under age 16.

⁵ Includes children in families with both spouses present and in families with

male householder with no spouse present.

⁶ Includes persons under age 18 listed as unrelated individual, family householder, spouse of householder, or other family member.

Source: Public use file of the March 1997 Income Supplement, *Current Population Survey*, Bureau of the Census. For a discussion of standard errors of estimated numbers and percentages, see Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports*, P-60 series.